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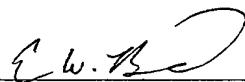
IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Group: 1725
Confirmation No.: 1054
Application No.: 10/040,092
Invention: STRIP CASTING APPARATUS
Applicant: Kato et al.
Filed: October 19, 2001
Attorney
Docket: 29385-68773
Examiner: Kuang Y. Lin

Certificate Under 37 CFR 1.8(a)

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

on June 15, 2004



(Signature)

Eric W. BEARD
(Printed Name)

AMENDMENT UNDER RULE 116

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This Amendment under Rule 116 is responsive to the Office Action mailed April 27, 2004, in accord with the discussion at the Interview on May 21, 2004 to place the application in condition for allowance.

The Listing of Claims begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 5 of this paper.